

**ILLINOIS-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY**  
**SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY**  
**OF**  
**JOSEPH F. HARTNETT, JR.**

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**Q. Please state your name and business address.**

A. JoscpH F. Hartnett, Jr., American Water Works Company, Inc., 1025 Laurel Oak Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043.

**Q. Are you the same Joseph F. Hartnett, Jr. who testified previously in this proceeding?**

A. Yes.

**Q. What is the purpose of your Surrebuttal Testimony?**

A. My Surrebuttal Testimony will respond to the Rebuttal Testimony of Ms. Langfeldt and Mr. Gorman.

**Q. At page 4, Ms. Langfeldt states, "therefore, if the Company would not have a reasonable opportunity to recover its investment without resort to charging ratepayers for an inflated estimate of the merger premium, then it agreed to pay too much for the utility assets." Is Ms. Langfeldt's position a reasonable one?**

A. No. IAWC's proposal does not increase charges to ratepayers to pay for the Acquisition Premium. (I understand Ms. Langfeldt's reference to "merger

premium" to mean the Acquisition Premium.) Under the Savings Sharing Proposal, the Acquisition Revenue Requirement is paid from the shareholders' portion of Demonstrated Savings. The customers' portion of Demonstrated Savings operates to reduce the cost of service. Thus, under the Savings Sharing Proposal, rates would be lower than they would be, absent the Acquisition. If IAWC does not have a reasonable opportunity to recover its investment in the Acquisition by retaining a portion of the Demonstrated Savings, then IAWC does not believe Section 7-204 will be satisfied.

**Q. Is Ms. Langfeldt correct in stating at page 9, beginning at line 170, that "There is no logical basis for the Company to assume that the ratepayers would be charged for a premium that has no effect on merger savings and which resulted from negotiations in which ratepayers did not participate."**

**A.** As I have explained, the Savings Sharing Proposal operates to reduce rates and, at the same time, provide shareholders with an opportunity to recover the Acquisition Revenue Requirement. The Acquisition results in lower rates and better service. Furthermore, recovery of the Acquisition Revenue Requirement is necessary to provide an economic justification for the Acquisition to occur with no risk or cost incurred by the customers. Further as discussed by several Company witnesses, the premium not only has an "effect" on "merger savings"; but the savings could not be generated, absent the Acquisition; and the Acquisition would not occur without payment of the premium; so that it is the premium which actually allows the savings to be generated.

47 **Q. At page 11, beginning at line 210, Ms. Langfeldt states, "[i]n future**  
48 **acquisitions, premiums could increase due to the recognition of premium in**  
49 **utility rates in previous cases since acquirers would have certainty of**  
50 **premium recovery. As a result, savings net of the premium would decrease."**  
51 **Is this testimony accurate?**

52 **A.** It is not likely that acquisition premiums would increase if the Savings Sharing  
53 Proposal is approved. As has been discussed, under the Savings Sharing  
54 Proposal, the shareholders bear all risk that the Acquisition Revenue Requirement  
55 will not be recovered. Thus, there is no incentive at all for the shareholders to  
56 increase the burden of the Acquisition Revenue Requirement by agreeing to pay  
57 an unnecessarily high price (or premium). Approval of the Savings Sharing  
58 Proposal does not provide certainty that the Acquisition Premium will be  
59 recovered; nor would approval create certainty of recovery in any future case.

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61 **Q. At page 12, beginning at line 229, Ms. Langfeldt states that "Gross PP&E is**  
62 **not a proper method for allocating the purchase price of the project because**  
63 **it does not incorporate the present value of cash flows, including merger**  
64 **savings of each CUC company IAWC will acquire." Is this a valid criticism**  
65 **of the use of the Gross PP&E allocator?**

66 **A.** No. Given the nature of an asset purchase transaction, the original cost of the  
67 assets (gross PP&E) is the most logical basis to use to allocate the project price.  
68 Moreover, as I will discuss, the price assigned to the Illinois Utility Assets is

69 independently supported by the Illinois DCF Analysis shown on IAWC  
70 Exhibit 4.1R.

71 **Q. At page 13, beginning at line 263, Ms. Langfeldt suggests that she**  
72 **immediately recognizes three problems with the Illinois/DCF analysis**  
73 **presented with your Rebuttal Testimony. Would you comment on these**  
74 **criticisms?**

75 **A.** Yes. I believe Ms. Langfeldt's first objection relates to the mechanics of allocation  
76 rather than the Illinois DCF Analysis which supports the Illinois purchase price.  
77 Ms. Langfeldt is wrong in saying the Tax Benefits from the premium are not  
78 included in the project DCF. As stated in my response to Data Request RL 8.02,  
79 the DCF Analysis was updated to reflect the Tax Benefits (see RL 8.02  
80 attachment slides 2 & 3) during our negotiations with Citizens. Finally Ms.  
81 Langfeldt states the savings are not the same as presented in IAWC Exhibit 3.1R.  
82 This was clearly explained in the response to Data Request RL 8.04. The  
83 synergies used in the DCF analysis were the preliminary synergies identified  
84 during pre-offer due diligence. Additional data was made available after the offer  
85 and such additional data was reflected in Exhibit 3.1R. The savings used for the  
86 DCF Analysis are the same savings as are included in attachment 4(c)-12 to Staff  
87 Data Request 1.02. As a result, the Illinois DCF Analysis is consistent with the  
88 total project DCF Analysis.

89

90 Q. At page 15, beginning at line 286, Ms. Langfeldt suggests that, "to properly  
91 allocate the purchase price of the utility assets, it would be necessary to  
92 calculate the ratio of the [p]roject's purchase price to its post-acquisition  
93 market value." Is this testimony correct?

94 A. No, I disagree. This is a mathematical exercise that is not relevant to any issue  
95 before the Commission. The issue is whether the Illinois ratepayers would be  
96 subsidizing non-utility operations. The Illinois DCF Analysis clearly indicates  
97 the Illinois cash flows (\$221 million) support the Illinois utility purchase price  
98 (\$219 million). Further calculations are not relevant or necessary.

99  
100 Q. Is Ms. Langfeldt correct in suggesting at the top of page 16, beginning at line  
101 305, that "[d]ue to Mr. Bobba's limited knowledge of the details involved in  
102 the [merger and acquisitions] transactions he highlights in Company Exhibit  
103 6.3 and the vague nature of acquisition multiples, Mr. Bobba's analysis is not  
104 sufficient for demonstrating the purchase price of the Utility Assets is  
105 reasonable in light of recent market data?

106 A. It is important to remember the purpose of the comparison prepared by Mr. Bobba  
107 of recent acquisition market data. The Company determined the value of the  
108 Acquisition using a DCF methodology. However, as a further check of the  
109 reasonableness of the DCF results, Mr. Bobba compared the DCF valuation  
110 results to the values of similar transactions in the market. Mr. Bobba's  
111 methodology is entirely adequate to evaluate the DCF valuation results.

112 Q. At page 20, beginning at line 3, Mr. Gorman says you disagree with his  
113 conclusion that "IAWC is paying a premium to typical water utility stock  
114 valuations." Is this testimony correct?

115 A. No, I did not say that. I disagreed with Mr. Gorman's testimony on how to  
116 calculate the premium over the market value of CUCI prior to the Acquisition. In  
117 fact, attachment 4(c)-12 to Staff Data Request 1.02 clearly indicates where water  
118 utility stocks were trading at the time of our negotiations and where buyers were  
119 valuing water companies.

120

121 Q. On page 21, beginning on line 4, Mr. Gorman states that you contend that  
122 CUCI's valuation should not be based on public company stock valuations.  
123 Is this correct?

124 A. No. In fact, I agree that one should start with public company valuations.  
125 However, these valuation multiples must then be adjusted in order to apply them  
126 to CUCI. For example, Mr. Gorman uses a price to earnings (PE) multiple to  
127 value CUCI prior to the Acquisition. The average PE multiple for the publicly  
128 traded water companies are based on the earnings of those companies, which is  
129 after interest expense. CUCI's earnings used in Mr. Gorman's calculation show  
130 no interest expense, therefore overstating the earnings he is using. The ICC  
131 regulates CUCI based on an imputed capital structure, which lowers earnings to  
132 reflect significant imputed interest expense.

133 Another example of an adjustment needed to the public company PE  
134 multiples was to remove the portion attributable to acquisition speculation. By

135 using a PE multiple that is inflated above the average historical PE multiples for  
136 water companies, Mr. Gorman is overstating the value of CUCI in calculating his  
137 proposed premium included in our purchase price. Mr. Gorman also refers to  
138 Mr. Bobba's testimony regarding similar financial ratios. Mr. Bobba, however,  
139 does not use the PE multiple as an appropriate valuation tool for an asset  
140 valuation multiple in his exhibits.

141  
142 **Q. On page 21 starting on line 8, Mr. Gorman refers to the "Asset and Stock**  
143 **Purchase Agreement" as evidence that the "agreement to acquire CUCI**  
144 **appears to be based on an asset and stock purchase." Is this correct?**

145 A. No. As a point of clarification only, CUCI is the Illinois utility company, and the  
146 Acquisition of CUCI is strictly an asset purchase. The only stock that would be  
147 purchased in this transaction is the stock of Citizens Lake Water Company which  
148 is being purchased by AWW (or a non-regulated subsidiary) and not IAWC.

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150 **Q. Does this conclude your Surrebuttal Testimony?**

151 A. Yes, it does.